

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 23 of page 5 of the original specification with the following paragraph:

Preferably, the radii of the regions have a relation of  $r_1 < r_2 < r_3 < r_4$ , and the relative refractive index differences of the regions have relations of  $\Delta_1 > \Delta_2$ , and  $\Delta_2 < \Delta_3$  (here,  $\Delta_1(\%) = [(n_1 - n_c)/n_c] \times 100$ ,  $\Delta_2(\%) = [(n_2 - n_c)/n_c] \times 100$ ,  $\Delta_3(\%) = [(n_3 - n_c)/n_c] \times 100$ ,  $n_1$ : a ~~reflective~~ refractive index of the first core region,  $n_2$ : a ~~reflective~~ refractive index of the second core region,  $n_3$ : a ~~reflective~~ refractive index of the third core region,  $n_c$ : a ~~reflective~~ refractive index of the clad region).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 11, page 6 of the original specification with the following paragraph:

Preferably, the optical fiber has a dispersion slope of 0.023 to 0.05 ps/nm<sup>2</sup>-km<sup>2</sup> at 1550 nm, an effective section area of 35 to 50μm<sup>2</sup> at 1550 nm, and an effective section area of 35 to 50μm<sup>2</sup> at 1460 nm.